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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/076,029	02/12/2002	Stephen Patrick Simon	18360/233698	7382

826 7590 05/15/2003

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EXAMINER

MEINECKE DIAZ, SUSANNA M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3623

DATE MAILED: 05/15/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SL

37 CFR § 1.105 - Requirement for Information

1. Applicant and the assignee of this application are required under 37 CFR 1.105 to provide the following information that the examiner has determined is reasonably necessary to the examination of this application.

The information is required to complete the background description in the disclosure by documenting the product Roadnet 5000 (including its earliest public disclosure date as well as specific routing and scheduling features, as mentioned on page 22 of the specification). Applicant also states that the present invention may utilize the "bucket method", which is well known in the art" (page 19 of the specification). Please provide more detailed information regarding both Roadnet 5000 (which was released by the assignee of the present application, United Parcel Service of America, Inc.) and the "bucket method" and explain the differences, if any, between each and the claimed invention.

Furthermore, the Examiner has identified additional routing and scheduling products released by the United Parcel Service of America, Inc., the assignee of the present application. These products include Roadnet and eRoadnet. Please provide more detailed disclosures, such as product manuals, press releases, etc., regarding the specific features of these products as well as their earliest date of disclosure to the public and explain the differences, if any, between each product (as it existed more than one year prior to Applicant's earliest priority date of August 10, 2001) and the claimed invention. Also, please identify any additional products and services embodying the disclosed and/or claimed subject matter of routing and scheduling deliveries.

In response to this requirement, please state the specific improvements of the claimed subject matter over the disclosed prior art and indicate the specific elements in the claimed subject matter that provide those improvements. For example, the Applicant states throughout the specification that certain well-known methods are used as part of the claimed invention, yet that the claimed invention provides a novel method of allowing one user to schedule multiple or reoccurring deliveries all at once. It is not clear how this differs from the prior art, especially that disclosed by the Applicant in the specification, since all delivery scheduling algorithms attempt to optimize multiple deliveries at once.

Conclusion

2. The fee and certification requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 are waived for those documents submitted in reply to this requirement. This waiver extends only to those documents within the scope of this requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.105 that are included in the applicant's first complete communication responding to this requirement. Any supplemental replies subsequent to the first communication responding to this requirement and any information disclosures beyond the scope of this requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.105 are subject to the fee and certification requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97.

The applicant is reminded that the reply to this requirement must be made with candor and good faith under 37 CFR 1.56. Where the applicant does not have or cannot readily obtain an item of required information, a statement that the item is

unknown or cannot be readily obtained will be accepted as a complete response to the requirement for that item.

This requirement is subject to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.134, 1.135 and 1.136 and has a shortened statutory period of TWO (2) months. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susanna M. Diaz whose telephone number is (703) 305-1337. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9 am - 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq Hafiz can be reached on (703) 305-9643.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1113.

Effective May 1, 2003, any response to this action should be mailed to:

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

or faxed to:

(703)305-7687	[Official communications; including After Final communications labeled "Box AF"]
(703)746-7048	[Informal/Draft communications, labeled "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"]

Art Unit: 3623

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, 22202, 7th floor receptionist.

SMD

Susanna M. Diaz
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3623
April 29, 2003


TARIQ R. HAFIZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600